

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

**Please replace the previous Abstract with the following redlined Abstract:**

Devices for removing and/or slicing the ~~a~~ meat from ~~of~~ an avocado, papaya or similar fruit, and/or for slicing the meat are shown and described~~disclosed~~. In one particular embodiment, the device has a handle portion adapted to allow an individual to manually manipulate the device, and a working portion having an elongated blade and a pair of lateral extensions coupling opposing ends of the elongated blade to the handle portion. The elongated blade has a cross-sectional shape adapted to facilitate movement of the elongated blade through the meat of the fruit. The working portion of the device has a resting configuration in which the elongated blade has a first radius of curvature, and at least one of the lateral extensions is manipulable under a manual force during use to deform the working portion from the resting configuration to a displaced configuration in which the elongated blade has a second radius of curvature, to allow the individual to adjust the curvature of the elongated blade to conform ~~it~~selectively conforming to the curvature of the skin before and as the elongated blade moves through the meat of the fruit. The working portion of the device comprises a resilient material such that, when the manual force is removed from the at least one lateral extension, the working portion automatically returns to the resting configuration.